

# VHWC DISPATCH

January 2025

## FOUNDATION

The VHWC brings together parties to build or expand pathways through which Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their care partners optimize health and wellness outcomes.

## CONTACT US

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## CORE TEAM UPDATE

Happy New Year! We are eager to enter the next phase of Collaborative initiatives in 2025. Brainstorming meetings have been scheduled for our first four priority area activities. We invite anyone who is interested to participate with these meetings. If you are unable to join the meeting(s) as scheduled, we welcome ideas or suggestions via email to [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu). The schedule is as follows and each session will use the same zoom [link](#):

- Oral Health – Tuesday, 1/28/25, 1-2
- Suicide Prevention – Wednesday, 1/29/25, 1-2
- Service to Civilian Transition – Thursday, 1/30/25, 1-2
- Housing Insecurity – Friday, 1/31/25, 1-2

The goal of these meetings will be to identify 2 or 3 projects where VHWC collaborators could contribute. Suggested projects could be in process or ideas for new initiatives. The types of support VHWC can offer will generally take the forms of supporting community engagement, education & training, advocacy, and/or research & evaluation. Direct financial support is not currently available.

We remain committed to expanding the network of partners and collaborators. We invite you to stay connected through future editions of the newsletter, visit our website for the latest updates, and subscribe for VHWC news. We encourage you to contact us if you are interested in learning more about how to participate. If you're interested in joining the VHWC Advisory Council or want to explore ways to get involved with specific projects, be sure to subscribe on our [website](#).

On behalf of the Advisory Council and Administrative Core Team, we honor all who have served and extend our gratitude for your dedication to our country.



## VHWC ADVISORY COUNCIL ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT:

We are proud to feature the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) for ongoing commitments serving veterans and their care partners. MVAA is a state government agency and is housed within Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The agency works to identify and break down barriers veterans face in employment, education, health care and quality of life, making Michigan a great place for veterans and their families to call home. Unlike the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, which provides health care, educational, compensation and pension benefits, and more, the MVAA assists veterans and their families by connecting them to their federal resources and benefits, as well as those state benefits they have earned. The agency does this by working with various state departments and agencies, as well as hundreds of community-based veteran programs to create a no-wrong-door access to benefits and services. Services provided by MVAA include:

- The Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center (800-MICH-VET) and [Michigan.gov/MVAA](https://Michigan.gov/MVAA) website provide one-stop access for veterans and their families seeking information, resources and staff support.
- [Michigan Veterans Trust Fund](#) grants help combat-era veterans and their families weather unforeseen, temporary financial emergencies.
- [MVAA's Discharge Document Retrieval Service](#) provides veterans copies of DD-214 discharge documents.

MVAA is represented by Steve McCartney. To learn more or explore collaboration opportunities, contact MVAA at [MVAAResourceCenter@michigan.gov](mailto:MVAAResourceCenter@michigan.gov).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

**Webinars:** We are happy to share the following February webinars sponsored by our collaborators and encourage your registration and participation.

- [Michigan Center for Rural Health's](#) Special Population Grand Rounds, [Understanding Veteran Culture to Overcome Bias](#), 2/12/2025, noon-1pm. Selected continuing education credits available! Registration [here](#).
- MSU [Student Veterans Resource Center](#), [Moral Injury: Awareness and Support](#), 2/21/2025, 11am – noon. Registration [here](#).



Reach out if you are interested in delivering online content on health and wellness topics of interest for veterans and/or care partners. You can contact us at [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu) to be included on the speakers bureau list. Please identify “Speakers Bureau” in the subject line and provide the topic/content that you are interested to present as well as your contact information.

**Events:** Events being hosted by VHWC stakeholders are publicized on the [Resources and Events tab](#) on our website. Information and registration is available on that tab.

If organizations are looking to advertise an event or obtain assistance with hosting events, VHWC partners may be able to help. Send your event information and/or requests about the nature of support or help needed to [ihp.vhwc@msu.edu](mailto:ihp.vhwc@msu.edu) and we will share it with our networks.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Are you passionate about improving veteran and care partner health outcomes and wellness in your community? The VHWC offers various ways to engage in our work:

- Subscribe at our website to make sure you receive the latest updates and information and share this content with your networks.
- Stay informed about the latest developments by participating with Advisory Council or subcommittee activities.
- Volunteer your expertise: Whether you have ever served in the military, are a health care professional, community leader, or advocate, your input can make a difference.

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*“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” John F. Kennedy*

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